

passion for Agriculture, it is only a matter of time before this dream becomes a reality.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Chad Russell for his hard work and dedicated service at Turlock High School, and congratulating him upon receiving the California State Fair "Instructor Sweepstakes Award" not once but five times.

IN RECOGNITION OF ARKY  
MARKHAM

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Arky Markham of Northampton, Massachusetts.

Ms. Markham has dedicated her entire life and professional career to a simple pursuit: helping those in need, and giving a voice to the voiceless.

As a social worker, she has spent a career protecting and promoting the human rights of vulnerable populations, including war veterans, and those without healthcare.

As a political activist, she has stood up time and again for the causes that matter to her, demonstrating against nuclear weapons, and leading her community for peace, and against wars.

Ms. Markham has routinely volunteered and founded groups on behalf of social justice causes, including the American Friends Service Committee, where she was a co-organizer and chief fundraiser for the first Martin Luther King celebration in Northampton; Social Workers for Peace and Justice; The Middle East Peace Coalition; the Franklin/Hampshire Health Care Coalition which later helped to form Mass-Care, a state-wide organization that continues to advocate for single-payer health care; the Northampton Bill of Rights Defense Committee and the Alliance for Peace and Justice.

As Ms. Markham's community, friends, and colleagues gather this month to celebrate her 98th birthday and her life's work of 'doing good,' I ask that the House of Representatives join me in honoring a true champion of human rights.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD E.  
HARTMAN, SR.

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of a remarkable individual, Donald E. Hartman, Sr., who passed away on August 15, 2013. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his leadership and service to the state of Indiana.

Throughout his life Mr. Hartman served our country and Indiana with honor. He joined the U.S. Army in 1965 as a member of the military police and served overseas in Heidelberg, Germany. He then gave 26 years to the Indiana State Police. During his career he was recognized numerous times for his dedication

to public safety and in 1996 was awarded the Indiana State Police's highest honor, the Gold Star Award for Valor, after saving a woman from a burning vehicle on I-65.

Upon retirement from the police force, Mr. Hartman continued to offer his time and energy to the people of Indiana. He was elected as Sheriff of Newton County and began his first term in 2007, a position he still held at the time of his passing. He was a selfless, respectful, and gracious leader, always putting the people and department before himself and working to provide the best service and safety possible to Newton County residents.

On and off the job, Mr. Hartman was invested in Indiana. He was the Vice-President of the Newton County Fair Board and the President of the Newton County 4-H Council. In his youth, he was an active member of 4-H as well as Future Farmers of America.

Mr. Hartman was a true family man who is survived by Teri, his loving wife of 41 years, three children, his mother, and his brother. Mr. Donald E. Hartman, Sr. was a man committed to his family, his community, and his country. America is a better nation because of Mr. Hartman. He will be truly missed. Thank you for all you have given to this country and the state of Indiana. Rest in peace, Mr. Hartman.

ACKNOWLEDGING WILLIAM "BILL"  
BASSITT

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor William "Bill" Bassitt, President and CEO of the Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance on his retirement and to thank him for his dedicated, life-long spirit of community service.

Bill Bassitt holds a Bachelor's Degree from Xavier University and a Master's Degree from Bowling Green State University. He has also completed course work in economic development at the University of Oklahoma and was a graduate of the U.S. Chamber's Institute for Organizational Management from the University of Delaware, as well as the Center for Creative Management. He is a member of numerous professional organizations and has been the keynote speaker at many local, state, regional, and national conferences.

Since 2002, Mr. Bassitt has held the position of President and CEO of the Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance. As CEO, Bill Bassitt conducted three private sector fundraising campaigns to provide private sector funding to support the operations of the Alliance. Under his direction, the Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance has been successful in bringing public and private sector leaders together to breed change, address systemic issues and market Stanislaus County as a place to do business.

With 28 years experience in the Chamber of Commerce and economic development management in four states, Bill Bassitt has had an exceptional impact on the community. His career includes several years in the international business arena, working in over 24 countries, covering four continents, developing reciprocal trade agreements and seeking to bring direct

foreign investment and corporate operations to the United States.

Bassitt previously served as Senior Vice President of the Detroit Regional Chamber and Executive Director of the Detroit Regional Economic Partnership, where he built a large regional organization. In addition, he led numerous highly successful marketing missions involving complex interaction and negotiations with international business and government leaders. Adding to his list of accomplishments is the development and marketing of several business parks.

After working for over 30 years in economic development in 25 countries and on four continents, and leading six separate economic development organizations, Bill Bassitt and his wife Nancy, will relocate to their home in Ohio. Married for 45 years, they have four children and 7 grandchildren, which they look forward to spending more time with in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Alliance CEO Bill Bassitt on his retirement and in thanking him for his exemplary leadership and service to the community.

HONORING BOBBY E. COLLINS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bobby E. Collins, the newly appointed Postmaster for the Dallas Post Office. In this new position, Mr. Collins will oversee 1,435 employees across 31 stations, managing more than 540,000 deliveries throughout Dallas and its suburbs.

Mr. Collins spent decades refining his career with the U.S. Postal Service, which dates as far back as 1980 when he started as a letter carrier in Houston, Texas. Throughout his career, Mr. Collins advanced quickly within the Postal Service. He served in a number of supervisory roles in various parts of the country such as Texas, Arizona, and Missouri. Today, after devoting 33 years of service to assist the Postal Service with its mission to reliably deliver mail to every corner of our Nation, Mr. Collins takes this new responsibility with much enthusiasm.

The United States Postal Service is an important American institution that is fortunate to have such dedicated employees on board. Mr. Collins has demonstrated his unwavering commitment to the Postal Service and his fellow neighbors through decades of service and this new position will enable Mr. Collins to achieve even more.

Mr. Speaker, as we work together to address the various issues that the Postal Service currently faces, it is important that we recognize the individuals working diligently behind the scenes to keep postal operations running smoothly. I am proud to congratulate Mr. Collins for achieving this milestone in his career, and I have every confidence that he will serve the Dallas area well as Postmaster.